TRUCKEE RIVER BASIN, LAKE TAHOE

10337000 LAKE TAHOE AT TAHOE CITY, CA

LOCATION.—Lat 39°10'51", long 120°07'06", in NE ¼ NE ¼ sec.5, T.15 N., R.17 E., Placer County, Hydrologic Unit 16050101, on U.S. Coast Guard pier at Lake Forest, 1.1 mi northeast of Tahoe City, and 1.8 mi northeast of Lake Tahoe outlet dam on Truckee River, at Tahoe City.

DRAINAGE AREA.—506 mi^2, at lake outlet.

PERIOD OF RECORD.—April 1900 to current year. Monthend elevations only for October 1943 to September 1957, published in WSP 1734. Prior to October 1961, published as "at Tahoe."
CHEMICAL DATA: Water year 1969, bimonthly; 1978, biannually; 1979, annually.

REVISED RECORDS.—WDR CA-78-3: Drainage area.

GAGE.—Water-stage recorder. Datum of gage is 6,220.00 ft above U.S. Bureau of Reclamation datum, 6,218.86 ft above the NGVD of 1929. Prior to Oct. 1, 1957, nonrecording gages at several sites near outlet of lake at same datum except for water years 1907 and 1908, which were at datum 5.5 ft higher. Oct. 1, 1957, to May 8, 1958, water-stage recorder on left wingwall of dam at outlet of lake at same datum. May 9, 1958, to Sept. 30, 1968, water-stage recorder on pier, 1,000 ft east of dam at lake outlet.

REMARKS.—Lake levels regulated by a 17-gate concrete dam at outlet of lake; storage began about 1874. Monthly figures given represent usable contents. Usable capacity, 744,600 acre-ft, between elevations 6,223 ft, natural rim of lake, and 6,229.1 ft, maximum permissible elevation by Federal Court decree. Lake elevations referred to U.S. Bureau of Reclamation datum because that datum is used as the official reference point by all local, State, and Federal agencies. There are minor diversions for domestic purposes, irrigation, and power. See schematic diagram of Truckee River Basin, Lake Tahoe and Truckee River Basin.

EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.—Maximum elevation, 6,231.26 ft, July 14, 15, 17, 18, 1907; minimum, 6,220.26 ft, Nov. 30, 1992.

EXTREMES FOR CURRENT YEAR.—Maximum elevation, 6,224.30 ft, June 4, 5, 13, 14; minimum, 6,222.84 ft, Sept. 30.

Capacity table (elevation, in feet, and contents, in acre-feet)
(Based on topographic information available in April 1959)

6,223	0	6,225	243,000	6,227	486,800	6,229.1	744,600
6,224	121,400	6,226	364,800	6,228	609,300		

GAGE HEIGHT, FEET, WATER YEAR OCTOBER 2003 TO SEPTEMBER 2004

DAILY OBSERVATION AT 2400 HOURS

DAY	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
1	3.63	3.19	2.87	3.38	3.34	3.74	3.91	4.03	4.29	4.19	3.80	3.29
2	3.61	3.14	2.87	3.42	3.39	3.75	3.90	4.04	4.29	4.18	3.77	3.27
3	3.61	3.16	2.86	3.42	3.39	3.72	3.91	4.06	4.29	4.17	3.75	3.24
4	3.59	3.11	2.86	3.41	3.39	3.73	3.91	4.07	4.30	4.16	3.74	3.21
5	3.58	3.13	2.86	3.40	3.38	3.72	3.92	4.09	4.30	4.15	3.70	3.20
6	3.58	3.11	2.98	3.38	3.37	3.73	3.92	4.09	4.29	4.15	3.68	3.19
7	3.56	3.10	3.00	3.39	3.39	3.72	3.93	4.10	4.26	4.12	3.68	3.19
8	3.55	3.08	2.98	3.40	3.39	3.73	3.95	4.13	4.28	4.12	3.67	3.18
9	3.49	3.12	2.95	3.38	3.36	3.74	3.96	4.13	4.28	4.08	3.65	3.16
10	3.47	3.11	3.04	3.39	3.36	3.73	3.96	4.13	4.29	4.08	3.64	3.15
11	3.48	3.13	3.06	3.39	3.36	3.74	3.98	4.17	4.29	4.07	3.63	3.14
12	3.44	3.10	3.04	3.40	3.36	3.74	3.98	4.18	4.28	4.05	3.64	3.12
13	3.44	3.07	3.02	3.39	3.35	3.74	3.97	4.18	4.30	4.03	3.62	3.09
14	3.41	3.07	3.11	3.40	3.34	3.75	3.96	4.20	4.30	4.03	3.60	3.07
15	3.38	3.07	3.10	3.39	3.34	3.76	3.96	4.19	4.29	4.01	3.60	3.06
16	3.37	3.03	3.10	3.39	3.43	3.76	3.97	4.20	4.29	4.01	3.58	3.04
17	3.38	3.05	3.09	3.40	3.41	3.77	3.97	4.20	4.28	4.00	3.56	2.99
18	3.36	3.04	3.09	3.39	3.46	3.76	3.96	4.20	4.28	3.99	3.56	2.99
19	3.35	3.01	3.09	3.39	3.46	3.78	3.96	4.20	4.28	3.97	3.55	2.93
20	3.35	2.97	3.11	3.39	3.46	3.79	3.96	4.20	4.27	3.96	3.53	2.94
21	3.34	2.99	3.10	3.38	3.47	3.80	3.98	4.20	4.27	3.96	3.51	2.93
22	3.34	2.96	3.10	3.38	3.48	3.82	3.99	4.19	4.26	3.95	3.48	2.90
23	3.32	2.93	3.09	3.37	3.46	3.82	3.98	4.21	4.26	3.95	3.45	2.89
24	3.31	2.92	3.22	3.37	3.47	3.83	3.98	4.22	4.25	3.93	3.43	2.90
25	3.28	2.91	3.26	3.36	3.58	3.89	3.99	4.21	4.23	3.92	3.40	2.88
26	3.27	2.90	3.24	3.36	3.73	3.87	4.00	4.21	4.22	3.91	3.40	2.87
27	3.25	2.90	3.24	3.37	3.72	3.88	4.00	4.24	4.22	3.90	3.36	2.86
28	3.27	2.88	3.21	3.37	3.72	3.89	4.03	4.25	4.23	3.88	3.34	2.85
29	3.17	2.89	3.32	3.38	3.72	3.90	4.02	4.27	4.20	3.85	3.34	2.86
30	3.18	2.86	3.31	3.36	---	3.90	4.02	4.27	4.20	3.84	3.33	2.84
31	3.19	---	3.31	3.35	---	3.90	---	4.28	---	3.82	3.31	---
MEAN	3.40	3.03	3.08	3.39	3.45	3.79	3.96	4.17	4.27	4.01	3.56	3.04
MAX	3.63	3.19	3.32	3.42	3.73	3.90	4.03	4.28	4.30	4.19	3.80	3.29
MIN	3.17	2.86	2.86	3.35	3.34	3.72	3.90	4.03	4.20	3.82	3.31	2.84
a	23,100	0	37,600	42,500	83,300	106,400	123,500	153,300	143,600	95,600	37,600	0
b	-50,300	-23,100	+37,600	+4,900	+40,800	+23,100	+17,100	+29,800	-9,700	-48,000	-58,000	-37,600

CAL YR 2003 MEAN 3.88 MAX 4.89 MIN 2.86 b -34,700
WTR YR 2004 MEAN 3.60 MAX 4.30 MIN 2.84 b -73,400

a Usable contents, in acre-feet, at end of month.
b Change in contents, in acre-feet.